

The Mint Master

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE—MAY

Some of us are not that old yet, however there are some of us who are. I hope you will all come this month to celebrate the birthday of the Utah Numismatic Society. We will have surprises for everyone and goodies to. We will have out club 'Type Set' and 'Proof Sets' on display for all to enjoy.

If any of your with collections of UNS medals or a special collection you would like to share with the membership you are invited to bring them to the meeting. I know that some of you are avid collectors of USN medals and also have certain issues that are not well known such as off metal or trial strikes. These would be excellent to share with the membership and relate what may be an unknown story about their creation.

Make sure that you also bring your ideas and drawings for our 2016 Club medal. Who knows, you may be the next coin designer in our club. Don Swain will be in charge of the medal selection for 2016.

Happy 65th Birthday to the UNS. I hope to see all of you there.

Finally, I want to thank Mike Hansen for the great presentation he put on for us last month regarding the grading of coins. We certainly appreciate Mike and his wife for taking the time and for their continued support of the UNS. Remember, any one of you can volunteer to share your expertise on any subject or the coins in your collection.

Larry N. Nielsen

ANNOUNCEMENT - MAY

IT'S THE UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETIES 65TH BIRTHDAY AND CLUB MEDAL SELECTION FOR 2016



MAY'S AGENDA

Greetings	Larry Nielsen
Mini Exhibit.....	Phil Clark
News & Views.....	Phil Clark
Coin Quiz.....	Robie Cagle
Refreshments.....	Larry Nielsen

HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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O.C.D. (Obsessive Collecting Disorder)

by
Allan Schein

The online magazine Psychology Today (www.psychologytoday.com) defines Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) as *"an anxiety disorder in which people have unwanted and repeated thoughts, feelings, ideas, sensations (obsessions), or behaviors that make them feel driven to do something (compulsions). Often the person carries out the behaviors to get rid of the obsessive thoughts, but this only provides temporary relief. Not performing the obsessive rituals can cause great anxiety. A person's level of OCD can be anywhere from mild to severe, but if severe and left untreated, it can destroy a person's capacity to function at work, at school or even to lead a comfortable existence in the home"*.

Webster's Dictionary describes Compulsive behavior as; 1) *resulting from or relating to an irresistible urge*. 2) *irresistibly interesting or exciting; compelling*.

Webster's describes Obsessions as; *an idea or thought that continually preoccupies or intrudes on a person's mind*.

Does this behavior sound like any coin collectors you know? It sure does to me, and includes myself. Jokingly I have used the term OCD to mean Obsessive Collecting Disorder. Yet there is more truth in joking about this behavior than we might ordinarily give credence to.

Collectors can and often are obsessive about their hobbies, and that's OK. It's how great collections get built. A coin or grouping at a time over an extended period grows and grows. Compulsions are irresistible and often, so are the coins we covet. So we buy, we gather, we collect.

I sometimes ponder the common grey squirrel that gathers so many nuts every fall it was doubtful they could eat the majority of them if they were skillful enough to even recall where they hid them all. They never stopped putting them away. Nut after nut, pile after pile, they would continue their obsessive behavior without a break. No matter how many nuts a squirrel puts away, there never seems to be enough. They just keep collecting and "squirreling" them away. They are the ultimate compulsives.



So this got me thinking a little more about why and how we go about our collecting activities. On a conscious level, we appreciate the coins we collect. We learn about their history, the stories behind them, the process of making them and create active social networks with others who share the same interests. On an unconscious level there seems to be something more powerful going on. Something that drives us to persist and persevere in our collecting endeavors.

So I took a look back 10,000 years in history to behaviors that might have motivated and enabled Human Beings to survive and thrive without modern conveniences. We as people were a "hunter - gatherer" society. Everything we required had to be killed for food, gathered from plants and trees to eat, and if we were lucky enough to find large quantities, we had to learn how to save, preserve or set things aside for the future. This was true for both food and the materials we needed for tools and clothing, etc. It seems to have been a part of our DNA and the behavior completely beyond our ability to resist. Indeed, it may have been an essential behavior, allowing for the survival of our species. Archeologists have found hoards of preserved foods and edibles in caves and elsewhere that had been set aside and never consumed. There were places where herds

of animals were killed "en masse" so the "tribe" had sufficient supplies. We've all heard of the Buffalo jumps where dozens of animals or more were driven over cliffs and fell to their death's so the people could harvest vast quantities of food. They collected their bounty when able.

Over the millennium, civilization progressed and farming became a more commonplace culture and gradually hunting became less dominant. But farming also required setting aside large quantities of food for the off seasons, in Winter or the dry season, when crops could not be grown. We were much like the squirrels and gathered and gathered not knowing how much was enough, or just to have quantities to share or trade as a commodity.



Now most of us are fortunate enough to live in times of plenty. Our societies have moved away from an agrarian or farming culture that dominated our populace, to a manufacturing / technological society. For 90% of the American population during colonial times agriculture was the primary occupation. Subsistence farming dominated until about 1800 when cotton became a major crop. Gradually it evolved and today, although about 6-7% of our population work in the food and agriculture industry, only 2% of the population actual-

ly live and work on farms.

But Humans have changed very little in the last thousands of years. We are better educated, have a longer lifespan due to better nutrition and medical advances, and safer environments. But our DNA has remained virtually unchanged. According to Anthropologist Steven Jay Gould, *"since modern Homo sapiens emerged 50,000 years ago, "natural selection has almost become irrelevant" to us, the influential Harvard paleontologist proclaimed. "There have been no biological changes. Everything we've called culture and civilization we've built with the same body and brain."* (Discover Magazine, March 2009) However, this is beginning to change rapidly in the present century with the widespread merging of populations and cultures.

But for the purposes of a collecting theory, if Humans have not significantly changed for millennium, our hunter gatherer instincts still exist within ourselves, and at least in part can explain the collecting bug. We are wired for it, chemically designed to behave as gatherers and it shows up in our obsessive collecting behavior. We are genetically engineered to collect and gather and put things away. We just can't help it. It's who we are, how we behave and why we are driven. Sadly, for some people "hoarding" becomes a way of life. Others among us are more disciplined, and stash "collectibles" away in a more discriminate way.

We no longer live in caves or huts or teepee's and the greater majority of us no longer grow the bulk of our food. We work to earn money to use for trade to provide the necessities of survival for ourselves and family. If we work hard enough we are able to save more than we spend. And as a society with a considerable amount of leisure time, we have developed hobbies and activities to enjoyably fill that time. Over several thousand years the coins that evolved for use in trade have themselves become the objects we collect.



So don't beat yourself up about all the coins you buy, or the currency notes you keep piling up. There is really no use trying to resist the urge to collect, so you might as well go with it, enjoy it, and build the best collections you can.

As the reader, you might not completely agree with my assessment about the reasons why we are obsessively or compulsively wired to collect. And that's OK. But that's my story, and I'm sticking with it. After all, based upon our behavior, in essence we're just two legged sophisticated cousins to the squirrels, looking for another nut.

Happy coin hunting.

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ADAMS' OFFICIAL PREMIUM LIST



1815.	Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	\$2,000.00
1815.	Very fair, Jenks, 1883.....	52.00
1815.	Very fine, Adams, 1876.....	150.00
1818.	Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	20.00
1819.	Extremely fine, Smith, 1906.....	550.00
1819.	Fine, Low, 1907.....	650.00
1819.	Very fine, Stickney, 1907.....	560.00
1820.	(Curled "2.") Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	30.00
1820.	(Square "2.") Uncirculated, Wilson, 1907.....	34.00
1820.	Extremely fine, Wilcox, 1901.....	18.00
1821.	Uncirculated, Smith, 1906.....	300.00
1821.	Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	200.00
1821.	Perfect, Jewett, 1909.....	275.00
1822.	Very fine, Smith, 1906.....	2,165.00
1823.	Uncirculated, Smith, 1906.....	21.00
1823.	Very fine, Stickney, 1907.....	16.00
1824.	Very fine, Smith, 1906.....	120.00
1824.	Very fine, Jewett, 1909.....	165.00
1825.	(Over '21.) Very fine, Smith, 1906.....	70.00
1825.	Extremely fine, Wilson, 1907.....	100.00
1826.	Extremely fine, Wilson, 1907.....	35.00
1826.	Uncirculated, Stickney, 1907.....	60.00
1827.	Extremely fine, Smith, 1906.....	260.00
1827.	Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	350.00
1828.	(Over '27.) Extremely fine, Wilson.....	240.00
1829.	(Large date.) Uncirculated, Wilson.....	240.00
1829.	(Small date.) Extremely fine, Wilson.....	210.00
1829.	(Small date.) Extremely fine, Stickney, 1907.....	360.00
1830.	Extremely fine, Wilson, 1907.....	35.00
1830.	Very fine, Wilcox, 1901.....	31.00
1831.	Uncirculated, Smith, 1906.....	60.00
1831.	Extremely fine, Wilcox, 1901.....	40.00
1831.	Very fine, Jewett, 1909.....	60.00
1832.	Very fine, Smith, 1907.....	230.00
1832.	Extremely fine, Steigerwalt, 1907.....	310.00

THE D. Brent Pogue

COLLECTION



MASTERPIECES OF
UNITED STATES COINAGE

Part IV

May 24, 2016

Lot #	Low Estimate	High Estimate	Lot #	Low Estimate	High Estimate	Lot #	Low Estimate	High Estimate
4001	\$75,000	\$100,000	4022	\$70,000	\$100,000	4043	\$650,000	\$800,000
4002	\$50,000	\$70,000	4023	\$60,000	\$80,000	4044	\$850,000	\$950,000
4003	\$30,000	\$40,000	4024	\$50,000	\$80,000	4045	\$125,000	\$150,000
4004	\$70,000	\$90,000	4025	\$350,000	\$450,000	4046	\$100,000	\$150,000
4005	\$150,000	\$200,000	4026	Estimate Upon Request		4047	\$70,000	\$100,000
4006	\$25,000	\$35,000	4027	\$50,000	\$70,000	4048	\$75,000	\$125,000
4007	\$475,000	\$600,000	4028	\$80,000	\$120,000	4049	\$40,000	\$50,000
4008	\$30,000	\$50,000	4029	\$100,000	\$200,000	4050	\$100,000	\$150,000
4009	\$30,000	\$40,000	4030	\$600,000	\$800,000	4051	\$25,000	\$35,000
4010	\$100,000	\$150,000	4031	\$400,000	\$500,000	4052	\$600,000	\$700,000
4011	\$70,000	\$100,000	4032	\$180,000	\$250,000	4053	\$25,000	\$35,000
4012	\$900,000	\$1,300,000	4033	\$80,000	\$120,000	4054	\$100,000	\$150,000
4013	\$500,000	\$700,000	4034	\$150,000	\$250,000	4055	\$40,000	\$60,000
4014	\$275,000	\$375,000	4035	\$300,000	\$400,000	4056	\$100,000	\$150,000
4015	\$80,000	\$120,000	4036	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	4057	\$50,000	\$70,000
4016	\$120,000	\$180,000	4037	\$700,000	\$800,000	4058	\$60,000	\$90,000
4017	\$150,000	\$250,000	4038	\$300,000	\$400,000	4059	\$40,000	\$60,000
4018	\$70,000	\$100,000	4039	\$120,000	\$180,000	4060	\$40,000	\$50,000
4019	\$100,000	\$150,000	4040	\$400,000	\$500,000	4061	\$80,000	\$120,000
4020	Estimate Upon Request		4041	\$150,000	\$250,000	4062	\$10,000	\$15,000
4021	\$50,000	\$80,000	4042	\$100,000	\$150,000	4063	\$70,000	\$100,000

Above are the pre-sale auction estimates for the upcoming Pogue IV auction. The half eagle lots from 1821 to 1832 are respectively 4025 to 4043.

Compare these with the Adams 1909 price list of Half Eagles on the previous page! This will give you some understanding of how Elisaberg completed the only complete set of U.S. coinage for under \$500,000.

YOUNG NUMISMATISTS CORNER

YOUR ABILITY TO PERSONALLY, EFFECTIVELY AND CONSISTENTLY EVALUATE AND GRADE COINS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

Last month's Young Numismatist article, the News and Views presentation, and Mike Hansen's "How to Grade" program; all stressed the importance skillful grading capability in today's coin collecting environment. Gradeflation, even in professionally slabbed coins, skillful doctoring, and the increasing number of skillfully packaged counterfeit coins and bullion offerings make effective evaluation and grading an absolute necessity for every collector and numismatist. Now, let's look at how we survive in this increasingly complex numismatic environment.

Counterfeit Detection: Before I even worry about grading an item, I do everything I can to make sure it is authentic or genuine. I start by researching and studying about the item I'm interested in. I learn and note, write down or enter in a portable smart device, all the key characteristics the item should possess or exhibit. Strike strength; quality of detail; size, location, and boldness of detail elements; article composition (always carry my magnet and magnifier); and any other key characteristics unique to the item. Finally, during this evaluation process, I always remember that while copying is the sincerest form of flattery, in numismatics it is the sincerest form of deception and if the price is too good to be true, the item is not what it appears to be. You should also be aware that many replica, facsimile and copy coins are still in the marketplace and do not display the required **COPY** marking.

Doctored Coins: If you ask twenty numismatists what a doctored coin, medal or token is, you will most likely get twenty similar although different answers with some being more inclusive than others. For me, a doctored numismatic item is one which has been manually altered in its post-production state by the addition, removal, or movement of any metal or substance to or from its original composition or surfaces. Under my definition, any coin, medal or token which has been artificially toned, brushed, buffed, cleaned, counter-stamped, curated, detail highlighted, dipped, drilled or holed and plugged, engraved, erased, polished, recolored, repaired, restored, retoned, or whizzed is an altered or doctored coin. Many of these processes intentionally change the surface texture by the movement or removal of metal and metal oxidation.

Grading: Several of our past articles have dealt extensively with the subject of grading and Mike's presentation pulled it all together in a concise verbal and visual format. Mike pointed out that in addition to a good working location, proper lighting, the right magnification capability and a good working knowledge of the subject matter; the grading process requires ready access to high end visual reference material. He also noted that to feel comfortable and confident with your grading ability requires a considerable amount of patient practice and experience. In short, it does not happen overnight. His presentation included graphic views of the reference coins and grades which are available in the PCGS PHOTOGRADE program. This program, which was heretofore only available via subscription, was recently made available to everybody as a free up loadable application for your portable smart devices. That means one less book or books you need to haul to a show for reference when you are in the market to make a purchase.



For a Grading Challenge, go to the usmint.gov web site and pull up the gold Mercury Dime, which is currently unavailable. Read the complete description and specifications. Then using the grading criteria currently used for the silver Mercury dime, grade the Mint's offering based on the pictures provided on their site. Since there are so many purchases from online auctions based on pictures or photos, I think it is a fair challenge. Bring your results to the next meeting for discussion

PHIL CLARK

Featured Highlights from the Stack's Bowers Galleries ANA World's Fair of Money Auction

August 9-13, 2016 • Anaheim, CA

U.S. Consignment Deadline: June 27, 2016 • World Consignment Deadline: June 14, 2016

Stack's Bowers Galleries is once again an official auctioneer for the 2016 ANA World's Fair of Money. Our experts have handled at auction just about every coin, note, medal and token, from ancient issues to modern times, and our client list includes proven buyers in every collecting specialty. Don't miss the opportunity to consign your coins, currency and other numismatic material to this important event.



1839-O Capped Bust Half Dollar.
Reeded Edge. HALF DOL. GR-1.
Rarity-1. AU-58 (PCGS).



1870-CC Liberty Eagle.
EF-40 (PCGS).
From Dean's Gold Eagles



1939 Jefferson Nickel. FS-901.
Reverse of 1940.
Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). CAC.



1900 Lafayette Silver Dollar.
MS-65+ (PCGS). CAC.



1950-D Franklin Half Dollar.
MS-66+ FBL (PCGS). CAC.



1853-O Liberty Double Eagle.
AU-55 (NGC). CAC.



1878 Pattern Dollar.
Judd-1554b,
Pollock-1746. Rarity-8.
Copper. Reeded Edge.
Proof-65 RB (PCGS).



Undated (1795) North Wales Halfpenny.
Baker-35, W-11190. Two Stars at Each Side
of Harp. VF-20 (PCGS). Secure Holder.
From the Eagle Hill Collection



1885 Liberty Quarter Eagle.
MS-63 PL (NGC).



1850 Mormon \$5. K-5. Rarity-5+.
EF-45 (PCGS).

For more about this auction or to consign to a future event, contact a numismatic specialist today!
West Coast: 800.458.4646 | East Coast: 800.566.2580 | Info@StacksBowers.com



1851 Liberty Seated Silver Dollar. Restrike-Overstruck on a New Orleans Mint Liberty Seated Silver Dollar-Proof-62 (PCGS). CAC.



1867 Liberty Eagle. AU-58 (PCGS). CAC. From Dean's Gold Eagles



1863 Pattern Washington Two-Cent Piece. Judd-310, Pollock-375. Rarity-7-. Copper-Nickel. Plain Edge. Proof-64 (PCGS). From the Eagle Hill Collection



1908 Barber Dime. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC.



1787 Fugio Copper. Pointed Rays. Newman 1-Z, W-6610. Rarity-7. Obverse Cross After Date, No Cinquefoils, Reverse Label with Raised Rims. Fine-15 (PCGS). From the Eagle Hill Collection



Dolgeville, New York. \$20 1902 Red Seal. Fr. 639. The FNB. Charter #6447. Serial Number 1.



Uncut sheet of (6) Salem, New Jersey. \$5 1929 Ty. 1. Fr. 1801-1. The Salem National Bank & Trust Company. Charter #1326. Serial Number 1.



Herkimer, New York. \$10 Brown Back. Fr. 504. The Herkimer NB. Charter #5141. Serial Number 1.



Salem, New Jersey. \$100 1865 \$100 Original Series. Fr. 454. The Salem National Banking Company. Charter #1326.



Fr. 2221-G. 1934 \$5,000 Federal Reserve Note. Chicago PMG Choice Uncirculated 63.



New Zealand Serial #1: "First Banknote Issued by New Zealand Government"



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GALLERIES

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PROOF OR MINT-STATE?

Doug Nyholm

Most of the time there is little problem in determining the difference between a Mint State coin and a Proof. One exception is when dealing with very early proof prior to 1850 and especially proofs in the 1820's or 30's. Most of us will never have this problem. Proofing techniques were far less defined then and the equipment and conditions for striking early proofs were far different. It sometimes takes an expert to properly identify some of these early proofs, their appearance is far cruder than modern proofs.

There is however is another group of coins that are hotly debated if they are proofs at all although some are actually in certified holders which indicate proof status. Among this relatively small group of coins I have chosen a few to talk about in this article. Three coins come to mind specifically, and these three are as follows:

1. 1856 Flying Eagle Cent
2. 1880 Shield Nickel
3. 1872 Two Cent Piece



Why these three? Because there is ongoing debate when one of these coins is marketed if it is a Mint State example or a Proof specimen. Lets start with the 1856 Flying Eagle Cent. The Red Book lists values in both Mint State and Proof however neither PCGS or NGC presently will certify an example as anything but proof. Until recently! Previously both services encapsulated these cents as both Proof and MS but a number of years ago they changed their policy to grade them only as Proof. The older examples in a holder identified as Mint State usually command a significantly higher price. As I said 'until recently' Richard Snow, a notable expert on Flying Eagle and Indian Head Cents, recently submitted a 1856 Flying Eagle cent and it was awarded a Mint State designation. So, are these cents Proof or Mint State or both? I could go on for pages discussing the criteria and history of the 1856 coin, as have the grading services and numismatists but this is definitely a coin that falls into the category for debate as to whether it was struck as a Proof or Mint state example.

The second notable example is just as clouded in controversy although the details are a bit different. This is the 1880 Shield nickel. This is a very scarce nickel and becomes very rare in Mint State. The mintage is quite small as a reported 16,000 examples were struck with almost 4,000 proofs also struck. Coinage of early shield nickels was difficult for the mint as striking coins in nickel, which is hard and brittle definitely posed problems. Secondly, due to the small circulation strike very few high grade mint state examples have survived. As this coin has been hotly debated, the dies used to strike proofs are thought to have also been put into use to strike mint state examples. This has been a problem with identification of which coins were struck with proof dies with proof or non-proof planchets. Advanced collectors strive to acquire a MS-65 Mint State example but when acquired is it really Mint State? There are certain die characteristics which have been identified but still come under debate.



The Proof example at left in PF67 sold for \$2070 while the MS64 to the right sold for \$65,000.

This MS64 example recently sold by Heritage was described as follows:

***1880 5C MS64 PCGS.** The 1880 Shield nickel is the premier key date in the series, boasting a mintage of just 16,000 pieces. Besides the difficulty of locating a pleasing Mint State representative, collectors are also faced with the challenge of differentiating the rare circulation strikes from the more available but similar in appearance proofs of the same date. The die characteristics of the two different formats are not a black-and-white matter, as the two 1880 obverse dies were used for both proofs and circulation strikes. One reverse die, identified by recutting on the first S in STATES and a small island of metal below the T in the same word, is believed to have produced only circulation issues, although the absence of these diagnostics does not necessarily mean the coin is not a circulation strike. The present piece is not from the reverse die that shows the unquestioned circulation strike diagnostics, but the fields are only semiprooflike, with soft luster evident when tilted beneath a light. Moreover, the wreath leaves are not fully brought up, which is typically indicative of a circulation issue, not a proof, and PCGS adds its seal of approval on the attribution. Both sides are well-preserved and exhibit pale golden toning. An appealing coin in every respect. Population: 7 in 64, 9 finer (3/15).*

As you can now begin to see all is not always crystal clear in numismatics especially when it comes to something which sounds as simple as identifying a Proof from a Mint State coin.

The third example, which I recently discussed with Dave Hurr, is the 1872 Two Cent piece. This coin generally falls under the same category as the 1880 shield nickel. It has a small circulation mintage, just 65,000 coins, and a reported Proof mintage of approximately 950 examples. The same situation apparently occurred at the mint that proof dies, non-proofed planchets were mixed and examples are known to have been struck with Proof dies which are slabbed in MS holders. The question arises as to value and if the coin should be considered a proof or mint state. David also

states that a true Mint State example with all the die characteristics of a circulation strike example is worth many times more than a proof especially when it is in full red MS-65 or better, and that some have been purchased as Mint State when they technically should be considered Proofs.

As a notable fourth example of proof or Mint State one can look at the early Matte Proof Lincoln Cents from 1909 to 1916. There is also a known specimen dated 1917 which appears to have all the proper diagnostics of a Matte Proof example. Neither grading service will grade this coin however.

These coins at first glance could be easily overlooked by a novice collector as mint state examples. Since their Proof status as Matte Proofs the details are not mirror like but can be identified by their ultra sharp strike and more importantly by their squared rims. Many are also not red but brown. It is unlikely one would encounter a non identified Matte Proof Lincoln but anything can be possible.

Just remember, the line between Proof and Mint State is not always clear and although most coins can easily be identified the preceding list is one which blurs the line in their identification.



Doug Nyholm



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MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

MAY

BIRTHDAY & CLUB
MEDAL DESIGN

JUNE

YOUTH NIGHT

JULY

UNS PICNIC

AUGUST

GUEST SPEAKER

SEPTEMBER

APPRAISAL NIGHT /
FAVORITE COIN

OCTOBER

AUCTION

NOVEMBER

ELECTION ' / GUEST
SPEAKER

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS

PRIZES FOR MAY

Youth prize - 2016 Red Book Deluxe

On-time prize - 2009 Silver Eagle

Member prize - Westward Journey Nickels Set 2 copper rounds

Buy of the Month

For the Buy of the Month in May, I have a very limited number of 1921 Mercury Dimes. This is one of the key dates of the Mercury Dime series. The condition of these coins ranges from About Good to Good. The Red Book list in Good condition is \$65. I am selling these for



\$25 each, which seems to be a bargain since I've had such a hard time finding this bunch at that price! Due to the limited quantity, I can only sell one per person until everyone has had a chance to purchase (probably about the time of the mid-meeting break.) Now is your chance to fill one of those hard-to-find holes in your albums!

Drawings

2016 National Park Service Commem Half UNC

2016 National Park Service Commem Half Proof

Niue Silver Turtle

Civil War Token

Civil War Token

1966 Special Mint Set

Mexico 1964 Mint Set

1865 Three Cent Piece VF

Roman Silver Denarius

1857 Seated Liberty Quarter G

1982 Proof Set

1980 SBA Dollar Set

Mark Twain Commem Dollar UNC

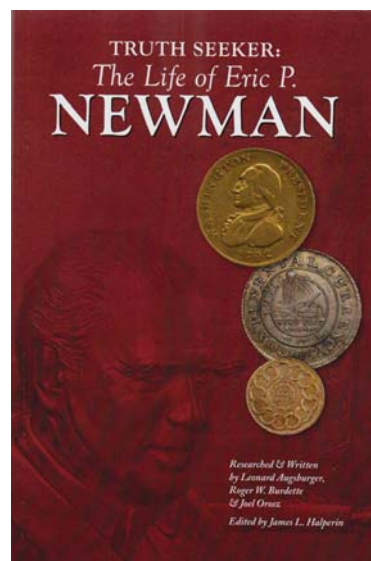
3-Coin Set Proof Presidential Dollars

Framed Buffalo Nickel Set

TRUTH SEEKER:

The Life of Eric P. Newman

This new book published by Heritage is printed in a 9x6 format. It is softcover consisting of 418 pages and printed with full color images. It is available directly from Heritage at the bargain price of only \$24.



“The Life of Eric P Newman ”

With the auctions from the collection of Eric P Newman concluding, which was one of the most significant collections assembled in the 20th century, comes this book published by Ivy Press and Heritage. Mr. Newman was born in 1911 and has basically devoted virtually an entire century to the study and acquisition of rare coins.

Mr. Newman has penned literally hundreds of articles resulting from his extensive research of which many today are still at the forefront of the knowledge many researchers quote in modern descriptions of coins and coinage. One of his more famous and notable works was his book entitled “The Fantastic 1804 Dollar” which has been re-printed in a “Tribute” edition.

This book covers his life from the early years to present and highlights many of the rarities which has passed through his hands. It is a journey one can take along with Mr. Newman through his life and experiences in numismatics and contains many fascinating stories and events that virtually allow the reader to relive. It is a unique insight into our wonderful hobby and unlike looking at a price list or auction catalog this book immerses one into our hobby.

Doug Nyholm





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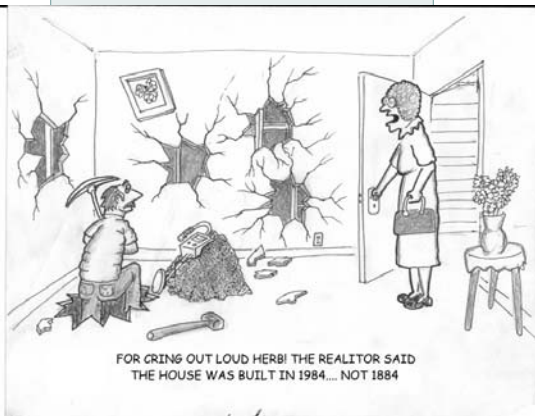
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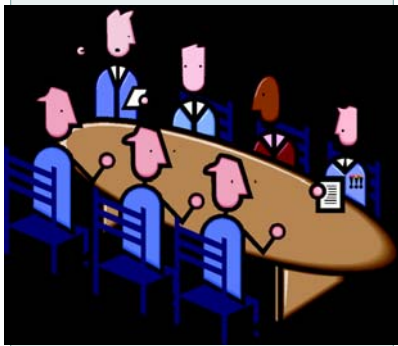
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Obscure Coin Facts.

Shown to the left is a mock up of the proposed Union Gold Coin.

"Test your knowledge of unusual coin facts?"

1. What is a Henning Nickel?
 - A) A counterfeit
 - B) A famous collector of Nickels
 - C) A pattern
 - D) The first Canadian Nickel
2. What is the date on a "Orphan Annie" Dime?
 - A) 1802
 - B) 1844
 - C) 1864-S
 - D) 1894-S
3. What is the rarest "Full Split Bands" Mercury Dime?
 - A) 1916-D
 - B) 1931-D
 - C) 1926-S
 - D) 1945
4. What Morgan dollar was once considered very rare but is common now?
 - A) 1879-CC
 - B) 1884-S
 - C) 1903-O
 - D) 1904
5. What coin is known as an 'Omega' counterfeit?
 - A) 1943 Copper Cent
 - B) 1907 HR \$20 St. Gaudens
 - C) 1799 Large Cent
 - D) 1933 \$10 gold Indian
6. What denomination was the proposed 'Union' Gold coin?
 - A) \$25
 - B) \$100
 - C) \$50
 - D) \$250

May's UNS Meeting Announcement

It's time to start thinking, designing, and sketching your ideas for our 2016 UNS Medal

We will be selecting our annual medal at our May meeting!



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Gold Mercury Dimes Available



If you didn't get your gold Mercury Dime from the Mint they are available now on EBay.

Lowest Price I saw was \$256 raw and up to \$423 certified MS70.

To say the least, a neat item, but remember its still just 1/10 oz of gold.

Mintage has been announced at 125,000.

EDITORS MESSAGE—MAY 2016



I was always under the impression that it was illegal to deface, mutilate or otherwise change or modify our currency. Furthermore to clarify my understanding I also understand that if you wanted to do something to the currency in your possession such as modify it for jewelry, draw pictures on it or whatever else you had in mind you could do so but the legal issues came into place if you attempted to return the modified bill or coin to circulation.

I looked this up on the internet, and we all know that everything you read on the internet is true, right!

Well here is what is stated:

*18 U.S.C. § 333 : US Code –
Section 333: Mutilation of*

National bank obligations

Whoever mutilates, cuts, defaces, disfigures, or perforates, or unites or cements together, or does any other thing to any bank bill, draft, note, or other evidence of debt issued by any, or the Federal Reserve System, with intent to render such bank bill, draft, note, or other evidence of debt unfit to be reissued, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

Now with this being stated, I have always wondered about the clerk at a store who takes out that special marker and writes on your note. Is this breaking federal law? After all they are defacing your currency and then placing it back into circulation. I suspect that most of these clerks who do this or hold it up to the light to see the mylar strip don't really know much about what their looking for anyway. I guess the bottom line is that a swipe of a pen on a bill technically doesn't deem the note to be "unfit to be reissued" but it just bugs me when they do this.

So the next time that 7-Eleven clerk writes on your bill make sure you ask for his name, quote the statute listed above, and tell him you are going to report the store to the Secret Service. That should work fine and help with your transaction. Just a little humor for this month.

Doug Nyholm



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Where to look for rare coins!

by
Doug Nyholm

In keeping with last month's article by Allan Schien about circulation finds I thought I would follow up with a similar article. Remember the days, at least I do, post 1965 when the silver was removed from our coinage and it rapidly caused any old silver coins to be removed from circulation. I was a kid, just 13 years old still spending Morgan silver dollars for candy bars just before this happened and was very excited in 1965 when going through my mothers change I spotted my first 1965 clad quarter. Thinking back now on that moment, which remarkably is still clear in my memory, boy was I ever misguided. It should have been one of the saddest days in the life of any collector, 13 years old or 50 years old. I now fondly remember those days when change in your pocket would jingle and not clank, and also spending half dollars for whatever. We don't even have half dollars anymore, other than the ones minted before 2002 and many people advocate elimination of the cent and even a few other state that the nickel has no real purchasing power and could be eliminated. This would leave us with a dime and quarter, crazy.

Anyhow, so much for nostalgia, where does one find collectable coins today? Are they only to be had at your local coin shop or EBay? In the past several years I have always stopped at every 'Coinstar' machine I pass and took a look into the reject bin. I actually have used these machines to redeem a pile of pennies or whatever, I was just too lazy to count and roll them and each time there is always a few bent, damaged or the occasional Canadian penny that winds up in the reject bin.

Well, it is interesting how many times I see a coin or two in the bin that somebody has neglected to check or just ignored. Recently I walked past one in a local Walmart and found \$3 face in Canadian coins and \$1.10 in U.S. Nothing of any value but they definitely went home with me. On another recent check there was only a single coin in the hopper, a 1964 silver Roosevelt Dime! These machines don't like silver and I over the years have acquired probably \$5 face in just U.S. 90%. I am not going to quit



my day job and retire but it is always fun to get something for nothing. The majority of the time what I find is bent or damaged U.S. cents or nickels mixed with a foreign coin. I don't know how many of you may also check these machines out for rejects, but I have now given away my secret. There are a lot of CoinStar machines installed everywhere so there should be enough to go around. Let me know your story of finds in these machines or mention it at our next club meeting.

As far a rare circulation finds I never found anything near a 1916-D Mercury dime like Allan. My best find was a 1910-S Lincoln cent in XF. I got a friend of mine interested in coins and he and his son went to the bank and got rolls of pennies to look through to see how many holes they could fill up in their Lincoln albums. This was about 10 years ago and he found a 1931-S Lincoln which I thought was amazing. It's definitely not like going through change in the 1960's and circulation finds are few and far between but it does happen.

Send me an email and let me know what you have found. I will showcase it in a future article. In the meantime, good hunting.

Doug Nyholm



Coin Quiz Answers

1-A	4-C
2-B	5-B
3-D	6-B

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The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 64th year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable as well as novice and beginning collectors in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled "The Mint Master" contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the 'Counterfeit Corner,' 'Book Reviews,' 'Young Numismatists,' as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual "Youth Night" and "Summer Picnic."

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the Columbus Community Center, 2350 S. 500 E., Salt Lake City.

